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09/777,592	02/05/2001	Frederick W. Ryan JR.	F-235	3158

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EXAMINER
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BASS, JON M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3629

DATE MAILED: 01/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/777,592

Applicant(s)

RYAN, FREDERICK W.

Examiner

Jon Bass

Art Unit

3629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 February 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Jon B.

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This office action is in response to Verification System Having Forensic Accounting capability.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. **Claims 1, 8, 15 and 21** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Robert Cordery et al. (US Patent No. 6,446,921), hereafter referenced as Cordery.

#### **As per Claim 1**

Cordery discloses a system and method comprising: A mail piece verification system for processing mail pieces, the mail pieces having associated therewith respective mail piece data, the system comprising:

A plurality of postage metering systems for preparing mail pieces; (fig1, element 10, postage metering system).

A plurality of mail processing centers for receiving mail pieces and obtaining the respective mail piece data; and

A data center in operative communication with the plurality of postage metering systems and the plurality of mail processing centers, the data center including a plurality of account files corresponding to the plurality of postage metering systems; and wherein the data center is for: (fig 1, element 30, transaction data center).

storing reset data in each of the plurality of account files representative of reset activity associated with the plurality of postage metering systems, respectively; (col. 4, lines 16-17; stored at data center).

receiving respective mail piece data corresponding to the mail pieces from the plurality of mail processing centers; using the respective mail piece data, storing empirical data in each of the plurality of account files representative of mailing activity associated with the plurality of postage metering systems, respectively; and (col. 8, lines 8-12; receives request from meter database).

conducting a forensic accounting analysis of the empirical data and the reset data associated with a selected postage metering system. (col.. 4, lines 43-48; evidencing transaction data and stored authenticated records).

#### **As per Claim 8**

Cordery discloses a system and method comprising: A method of operating a mail piece verification system for processing mail pieces, the mail pieces having associated therewith respective mail piece data, the method comprising the step(s) of:

receiving mail pieces at a plurality of mail processing centers that have been prepared by a plurality of postage metering systems; (col..8, lines 8-12, receives request from meter database).

obtaining the respective mail piece data from the mail pieces;

maintaining a plurality of account files corresponding to the plurality of postage metering systems;

storing reset data in each of the plurality of account files representative of reset activity associated with the plurality of postage metering systems, respectively; (col. 4, lines 16-17, stored at data center).

using the respective mail piece data, storing empirical data in each of the plurality of account files representative of mailing activity associated with the plurality of postage metering systems, respectively; and (col. 4, lines 16-17, stored at data center).

conducting a forensic accounting analysis of the empirical data and the reset data associated with a selected postage metering system. (col. 4, lines 43-48; evidencing transaction data and stored authenticated records).

**As per Claim 15**

Cordery discloses a system and method comprising: A method of operating a data center for processing data associated with mail pieces and a plurality of postage metering systems for preparing mail pieces, the method comprising the step(s) of:

receiving respective mail piece data associated with the mail pieces; (col. 8, lines 8-12, receives request from meter database).

maintaining a plurality of account files corresponding to the plurality of postage metering systems;

storing reset data in each of the plurality of account files representative of reset activity associated with the plurality of postage metering systems, respectively; (col. 4, lines 16-17, stored at data center).

using the respective mail piece data, storing empirical data in each of the plurality of account files representative of mailing activity associated with the plurality of postage metering systems, respectively; and conducting a forensic accounting analysis of the empirical data and the reset data associated with a selected postage metering system. (col. 4, lines 16-17, stored at data center).

**As per Claim 21**

Cordery discloses a system and method comprising:

A data structure comprising:

a plurality of account files corresponding to a plurality of postage metering systems, each of the plurality of account files including:

a serial number identifying a respective one of the plurality of postage metering systems;

reset data representative of reset activity associated with the plurality of postage metering systems, respectively; and

empirical data in each of the plurality of account files representative of mailing activity associated with the plurality of postage metering systems, respectively. (col. 4, lines 24-32; security issues for postage metering systems including uses for authentication databases and stored records).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 9-10, 12-14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Robert Cordery et al. (US Patent No. 6,466,921) and further in view of Robert Cordery (391) et al. (US Patent No. 6,526,391) (hereinafter referred as to Cordery 391).

#### **As per Claim 2**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein the data center uses a previously defined time period over which to conduct the forensic accounting analysis.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system wherein the data center uses a previously defined time period over which to conduct the forensic accounting analysis (col. 4, lines 37-40), the subset defines a combination of the postage parameters for the generation of postage evidence.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery's method and system in conjunction with Cordery (391)'s system to emulate an invention that deals with, the data center uses a previously defined time period over which to conduct the forensic accounting analysis, the subset defines a combination of the postage parameters for the generation of postage evidence, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (col. 4, lines 37-40).

#### **As per Claim 3**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein the data center initiates responsive action if the forensic accounting analysis reveals that the empirical data is not consistent with the reset data for the selected postage metering system.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system wherein the data center initiates responsive action if the forensic accounting analysis reveals that the empirical data is not consistent with the reset data for the selected postage metering system (col.4, lines 44-54), postage evidence is inhibited when parameter does not match.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery's method and system in conjunction with Cordery (391)'s system to emulate an invention that deals with, the data center initiates responsive action if the forensic accounting analysis reveals that the empirical data is not consistent with the reset data for the selected postage metering system, postage evidence is inhibited when parameter does not match, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (col.4, lines 44-54),

#### **As per Claim 5**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein, the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number; the responsive action includes issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; and the

data center provides instructions to the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number while allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system wherein, the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number; the responsive action includes issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; and the data center provides instructions to the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number while allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number (col. 4, lines 37-47), defines a combination of postage parameters.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery's method and system in conjunction with Cordery (391)'s system to emulate an invention that deals with, the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number; the responsive action includes issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; and the data center provides instructions to the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number while allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number defines a combination of postage parameters, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (col. 4, lines 37-47).

#### **As per Claim 6**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein, the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number; the responsive action includes issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; and the data center provides instructions to the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number while allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system wherein, the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number; the responsive action includes issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; and the



data center provides instructions to the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number while allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number (col. 4, lines 37-47), defines a combination of postage parameters.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery's method and system in conjunction with Cordery (391)'s system to emulate an invention that deals with the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number; the responsive action includes issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; and the data center provides instructions to the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number while allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number defines a combination of postage parameters, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (col. 4, lines 37-47).

#### **As per Claim 7**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein, the responsive action includes issuing instructions to the plurality of mail processing centers to increase a sample rate for mail pieces including mail piece data corresponding to the selected postage metering system.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system wherein, the responsive action includes issuing instructions to the plurality of mail processing centers to increase a sample rate for mail pieces including mail piece data corresponding to the selected postage metering system (col.4, lines 21-24), postage metering system dispense on certain numbers and days.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery's method and system in conjunction with Cordery (391)'s system to emulate an invention that deals with, the responsive action includes issuing instructions to the plurality of mail processing centers to increase a sample rate for mail pieces including mail piece data corresponding to the selected postage metering system, postage metering system dispense on certain numbers and days, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (col.4, lines 21-24) .

**As per Claim 9**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein the data center uses a previously defined time period over which to conduct the forensic accounting analysis.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system wherein the data center uses a previously defined time period over which to conduct the forensic accounting analysis (col. 4, lines 37-40), the subset defines a combination of the postage parameters for the generation of postage evidence.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery's method and system in conjunction with Cordery (391)'s system to emulate an invention that deals with, the data center uses a previously defined time period over which to conduct the forensic accounting analysis, the subset defines a combination of the postage parameters for the generation of postage evidence, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (col. 4, lines 37-40).

**As per Claim 10**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein further comprising the step(s) of: initiating responsive action if the forensic accounting analysis reveals that the empirical data is not consistent with the reset data for the selected postage metering system.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system wherein further comprising the step(s) of: initiating responsive action if the forensic accounting analysis reveals that the empirical data is not consistent with the reset data for the selected postage metering system (col.4, lines 44-54), postage evidence is habited when parameters does not match.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery's method and system in conjunction with Cordery (391)'s system to emulate an invention that deals with, further comprising the step(s) of: initiating responsive action if the forensic accounting analysis reveals that the empirical data is not consistent with the reset data for the selected postage metering system, postage evidence is habited when parameters does not match, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (col.4, lines 44-54).

**As per Claim 12**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number, and further comprising the step(s) of: issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number; and instructing the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system wherein the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number, and further comprising the step(s) of: issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number; and instructing the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number (col.4, lines 37-54), the subset defines a combination of the postage evidence, parameters.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery's method and system in conjunction with Cordery (391)'s system to emulate an invention that deals with, the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number, and further comprising the step(s) of: issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number; and instructing the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number the subset defines a combination of the postage evidence, parameters, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (col.4, lines 37-54).

**As per Claim 13**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number, and further comprising the step(s) of: issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number; and

instructing the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system wherein the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number, and further comprising the step(s) of: issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number; and instructing the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number (col.4, lines 37-54), the subset defines a combination of the postage evidence, parameters.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery's method and system in conjunction with Cordery (391)'s system to emulate an invention that deals with, the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number, and further comprising the step(s) of: issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number; and instructing the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number the subset defines a combination of the postage evidence, parameters, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (col.4, lines 37-54).

#### **As per Claim 14**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein, the responsive action includes issuing instructions to the plurality of mail processing centers to increase a sample rate for mail pieces including mail piece data corresponding to the selected postage metering system.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system wherein, the responsive action includes issuing instructions to the plurality of mail processing centers to increase a sample rate for mail pieces including mail piece data corresponding to the selected postage metering system (col.4, lines 21-24), postage metering system dispense on certain numbers and days.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery's method and system in conjunction with Cordery (391)'s system to emulate an invention that deals with, the responsive action includes issuing instructions to

the plurality of mail processing centers to increase a sample rate for mail pieces including mail piece data corresponding to the selected postage metering system, postage metering system dispense on certain numbers and days, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (col.4, lines 21-24) .

**As per Claim 16**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein the data center uses a previously defined time period over which to conduct the forensic accounting analysis.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system wherein the data center uses a previously defined time period over which to conduct the forensic accounting analysis (col. 4, lines 37-40), the subset defines a combination of the postage parameters for the generation of postage evidence.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery's method and system in conjunction with Cordery (391)'s system to emulate an invention that deals with, the data center uses a previously defined time period over which to conduct the forensic accounting analysis, the subset defines a combination of the postage parameters for the generation of postage evidence, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (col. 4, lines 37-40).

**As per Claim 17**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein further comprising the step(s) of: initiating responsive action if the forensic accounting analysis reveals that the empirical data is not consistent with the reset data for the selected postage metering system.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system wherein further comprising the step(s) of: initiating responsive action if the forensic accounting analysis reveals that the empirical data is not consistent with the reset data for the selected postage metering system (col.4, lines 44-54), postage evidence is habited when parameters does not match.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery's method and system in conjunction with Cordery (391)'s system to emulate an invention that deals with, further comprising the step(s) of: initiating

responsive action if the forensic accounting analysis reveals that the empirical data is not consistent with the reset data for the selected postage metering system, postage evidence is habited when parameters does not match, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (col.4, lines 44-54).

**As per Claim 19**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number, and further comprising the step(s) of: issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number; and instructing the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system wherein the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number, and further comprising the step(s) of: issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number; and instructing the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number (col.4, lines 37-54), the subset defines a combination of the postage evidence, parameters.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery's method and system in conjunction with Cordery (391)'s system to emulate an invention that deals with, the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number, and further comprising the step(s) of: issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number; and instructing the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number the subset defines a combination of the postage evidence, parameters, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (col.4, lines 37-54).

**As per Claim 20**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number, and further comprising the step(s) of: issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number; and instructing the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system wherein the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number, and further comprising the step(s) of: issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number; and instructing the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number (col.4, lines 37-54), the subset defines a combination of the postage evidence, parameters.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery's method and system in conjunction with Cordery (391)'s system to emulate an invention that deals with, the selected postage metering system includes an existing serial number, and further comprising the step(s) of: issuing a new serial number to the selected postage metering system to replace the existing serial number; allowing normal processing of mail pieces containing the new serial number; and instructing the plurality of mail processing centers to withhold processing of mail pieces containing the old serial number the subset defines a combination of the postage evidence, parameters, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (col.4, lines 37-54).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having

ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 4, 11 and 18** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Robert Cordery et al. (US Patent No. 6,466,921) as applied to in view Robert Cordery (391) et al. (US Patent No.6,526,391) in further view of Thomas Wells et al (US Pub 2001/0032881) hereinafter referenced as Wells.

**As per Claim 4**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein the responsive action includes conducting an inspection.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system but lacks wherein selected postage metering system.

Wells discloses a method and system wherein the responsive action includes conducting an inspection of the selected postage metering system (page 1[0006]), to perform mail verification.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery and Cordery (391)'s method and system in conjunction with Well's system to emulate an invention that deals with, the responsive action includes conducting an inspection of the selected postage metering system, to perform mail verification, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (page 1[0006]).

**As per Claim 11**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein the responsive action includes conducting an inspection.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system but lacks wherein selected postage metering system.



Wells discloses a method and system wherein the responsive action includes conducting an inspection of the selected postage metering system (page 1[0006]), to perform mail verification.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery and Cordery (391)'s method and system in conjunction with Well's system to emulate an invention that deals with, the responsive action includes conducting an inspection of the selected postage metering system, to perform mail verification, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (page 1[0006]).

#### **As per Claim 18**

Cordery discloses a method and system but lacks wherein the responsive action includes conducting an inspection.

Cordery (391) discloses a method and system but lacks wherein selected postage metering system.

Wells discloses a method and system wherein the responsive action includes conducting an inspection of the selected postage metering system (page 1[0006]), to perform mail verification.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Cordery and Cordery (391)'s method and system in conjunction with Well's system to emulate an invention that deals with, the responsive action includes conducting an inspection of the selected postage metering system, to perform mail verification, which additionally verifies the product data and its origin (page 1[0006]).

#### ***Conclusion***

The prior art that was cited hasn't been used in conducting a decision but has been considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure.

Any concerns in regard to this communication, the examiner **Jon Bass** can be reached at

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Art Unit: 3629

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(703) 305-0383 between the hours of 9-6pm Monday through Friday. The fax number where the application is being process is (703) 872-9306.

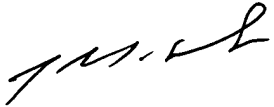
If for any reason the examiner is unavailable, the immediate supervisor, **John Weiss** can be reached at (703) 308-2702.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

C/O Technology Center 3600

Washington, D.C. 20231



**JOHN G. WEISS**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600**